

LAKE PLEASANT REGIONAL PARK

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

PARK HOURS:

Open 24 hours - 365 days a year

NATURE CENTER HOURS:

Monday - Sunday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

ADMIN. OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

PARK FEES:

Day-use vehicle entry fee: \$6
Per motorized watercraft: \$4
Per non-motorized watercraft: \$2
Developed campsites: \$30 per night
Semi-developed campsites: \$20 per night
Shoreline camping: \$12 per night

ONLINE RESERVATIONS:

<http://www.maricopacountyparks.org/>

WEBSITE:

http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/lake_pleasant/

DIRECTIONS:

From central Phoenix, take I-17 north to Carefree Highway (SR 74). Exit Carefree Hwy. and travel west 15 miles to Castle Hot Spring Road at mile post 19. Travel north to Lake Pleasant Regional Park entrance.



Maricopa County

Parks and Recreation Dept.
Lake Pleasant Regional Park
41835 N. Castle Hot Springs Rd.
Morristown, AZ 85342
Entry Station: 1 (928) 501-1710
Fax: (602) 372-7465
lakepleasant@mail.maricopa.gov



DECEMBER FEATURED PROGRAMS

Hiking the Cottonwood Trail

Date: 12/4/2015 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Come explore this fairly easy trail and see if you can spot wildlife with the ranger. From this trail we will most likely encounter wildlife, it is one of the less traveled in the park. We will meet at the Cottonwood Day Use Area / Trailhead. We will be hiking the 2.5-mile round trip Cottonwood Trail. Wear good hiking shoes, bring water and a snack. The ranger will see you at the trailhead for a fun adventure!

Core: Animals

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"Walk and Learn with the Ranger" Family Fun Hike

Date: 12/5/2015 **Time:** 3 p.m.

Description: Bring the family to this slower paced hike where we discover the desert and shoreline of Lake Pleasant. Most of this hike is easy with a few places along the shore that are rocky. Wear good shoes and bring some water. This hike is about two miles and will take about two hours, since we will be stopping a lot to explore nature. Follow the in-park "Hike" signs to the trailhead.

Core: Plants

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"Fun with a Bow" Archery 101 9AM Class

Date: 12/18/2015 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Learn to shoot recurve or compound bows. This 1.5 hour class is

the first step in learning archery. Wear comfortable clothes, closed toe shoes and bring some cold water. All equipment is provided. No need to call or sign up, just show up, but you must be on time for this class. For safety reasons, if you are late you will have to take another class. Follow the "Archery 101" signs from the main contact station to the class. Please leave yourself enough time to arrive early. This class is open to all ages 8 and above.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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"Exploring with the Ranger" Hike

Date: 12/19/2015 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Want to go on a fun super cool hike? Well come join the ranger on this fun hike and see some pretty cool stuff, maybe animals and stay cool too! This hike is great for the whole family, and we will be hiking by a creek, so we might splash some water on us at the creek crossings to keep cool, and that's cool! Please keep in mind it is 4 miles and will take at least three hours. At least one mile of this hike is in the shade and because of going up a hill at the end, we rate this a moderate hike. For questions call the ranger.

Core: Animals

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DECEMBER PROGRAMS

Hiking the Cottonwood Trail

Date: 12/4/2015

Time: 9 a.m.

Description: Come explore this fairly easy trail and see if you can spot wildlife with the ranger. From this trail we will most likely encounter wildlife, it is one of the less traveled in the park. We will meet at the Cottonwood Day Use Area / Trailhead. We will be hiking the 2.5 mile round trip Cottonwood Trail. Wear good hiking shoes, bring water and a snack. The ranger will see you at the trailhead for a fun adventure!

Core: Animals

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Lake Pleasant and It's History

Date: 12/4/2015

Time: 2 p.m.

Description: The ranger will guide you through the area history and development of the park. Come with your questions about the park and general area. Find out why Lake Pleasant is so pleasant! Follow the in-park "Ranger Talk" signs to the program.

Core: Archaeology & History

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Pleasant Paddlers Program - Easy Paddle Tour of Lake Pleasant

Date: 12/5/2015

Time: 9 a.m.

Description: Come join the ranger on this easy guided paddle on the waters of Lake Pleasant. This paddle is aimed as a social paddle at a slower pace and will be under four miles and three hours. Bring your own paddle craft or call ahead and rent one. Rental kayaks and rental stand-up paddle boards (including paddlecraft, life vest and paddle) may be available by calling park staff at (928) 501-1710, for more details. Everyone on this tour must wear a life vest. Bring plenty of water and a snack. Dress to get wet and stay cool. We will be meeting at the end of the Desert Tortoise Road, follow the "Pleasant Paddlers Program" in-park signs. We meet at 9am and want to launch by 9:30am.

Core: Aquatics

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"Walk and Learn with the Ranger" Family Fun Hike

Date: 12/5/2014

Time: 3 p.m.

Description: Bring the family to this slower paced hike where we discover the desert and shoreline of Lake Pleasant. Most of this hike is easy with a few places along the shore that are rocky. Wear good shoes and bring some water. This hike is about two miles and will take about two hours, since we will be stopping a lot to explore nature. Follow the in-park "Hike" signs to the trailhead.

Core: Plants

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Long Hike on the Beardsley Trail

Date: 12/11/2015

Time: 9 a.m.

Description: On a few occasions the park

offers a long hike, and this one is a fun one! Please come prepared for a longer nine mile hike, with good hiking shoes, plenty of water (there will be water available to refill at a halfway point), and some snacks. This hike is moderate but long. It has a few hills and some rocky trail sections. We will meet at the day use area on Desert Tortoise Road, just follow the in-park "Hike" signs to the trailhead. There are bathrooms and water at the trailhead.

Core: Health & Fitness

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Pleasant Paddlers Program - In Search of Bald Eagles Long Agua Fria Paddle

Date: 12/12/2015

Time: 8 a.m.

Description: This is our annual tour of the Agua Fria River arm before it gets closed off for the Bald Eagle nesting season. We usually see the eagles and it is a very scenic paddle. This is the longest paddle of the year so come prepared with plenty of water, snacks and protection from the sun. You must wear your life vest on this tour. This tour is for EXPERIENCED PADDLERS ONLY who already have their own gear. We will meet just to the north of the 4-lane boat launch ramp, look for the Pleasant Paddlers Program signs.

Core: Animals

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"Fun with a Bow" Archery 101 9AM Class

Date: 12/18/2015

Time: 9 a.m.

Description: Learn to shoot recurve or compound bows. This 1.5 hour class is the first step in learning archery. Wear comfortable clothes, closed toe shoes and bring some cold water. All equipment is provided. No need to call or sign up, just show up, but you must be on time for this class. For safety reasons, if you are late you will have to take another class. Follow the "Archery 101" signs from the main contact station to the class. Please leave yourself enough time to arrive early. This class is open to all ages 8 and above.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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"Fun with a Bow" Archery 101 11AM Class

Date: 12/18/2015

Time: 11 a.m.

Description: Learn to shoot recurve or compound bows. This 1.5-hour class is the first step in learning archery. Wear comfortable clothes, closed toe shoes and bring some cold water. All equipment is provided. No need to call or sign up, just show up, but you must be on time for this class. For safety reasons, if you are late you will have to take another class. Follow the "Archery 101" signs from the main contact station to the class. Please leave yourself enough time to arrive early. This class is open to all ages 8 and above.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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"Exploring with the Ranger" Hike

Date: 12/19/2015

Time: 9 a.m.

Description: Want to go on a fun super cool hike? Well come join the ranger on this fun hike and see some pretty cool stuff, maybe animals and stay cool too! This hike is great for the whole family, and we will be hiking by a creek, so we might splash some water on us at the creek crossings to keep cool, and that's cool! Please keep in mind it is 4 miles and will take at least three hours. At least one mile of this hike is in the shade and because of going up a hill at the end, we rate this a moderate hike. For questions call the ranger.

Core: Animals

STAFF:

Park Supervisor: David Jordan

Interpretive Ranger: Terry Gerber

Admin Staff: Chris Simpson, David Chatfield, Cheryl Kidd, Laura Jo Boyd, Jessica Scalzitti, Ashley Johnson, and Lindsay Burns.

Park Maintenance: Larry Beil, Jim Apthorp, Thomas Rychtik, Alma Izaguirre, and Grady Vanpopering

Nav Aid Techs.: Kyle Randall and Charlie Sizer

MESSAGE FROM THE PARK SUPERVISOR:

This is such a wonderful time of year! The weather is finally cooling off enough for hiking throughout the day and family are coming into town for the holidays. What better way to get some exercise and relaxation than with a hike through the Sonoran Desert. Enjoy one of the many beautiful trails at Lake Pleasant, such as the Yavapai Point Trail, as it leads you to a magnificent view overlooking the entire lake from atop Yavapai Point. Just remember, weather conditions may be pleasant during the day, but can quickly turn to very cold (and freezing) overnight or with a breeze. Plan ahead, and don't forget to bring a jacket with you... just in case.

Happy Holidays to you and yours,
David Jordan

WHAT TO BRING:

Please wear sturdy shoes (closed-toe), dress appropriately for the weather and bring more water than you think you will need. See descriptions for specifics. Notes: Fees for guided hikes and programs are included in the park entry fee of \$6 per vehicle or with your annual pass. Reservations are not required unless specified in the program description. Hikes/programs are canceled if heavy inclement weather is imminent. If possible, canceled hikes will be posted on the website –

www.maricopa.gov/parks